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REMARKS

In response to the Office Action of September 28, 2005, the present application has been carefully reviewed and amended. Entry of the amendment and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 USC §102

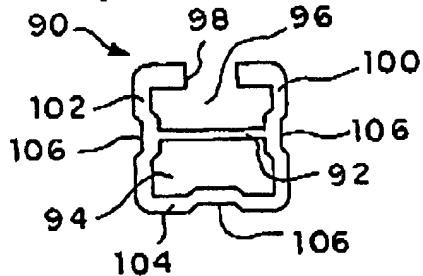
All the original pending claims, Claims 1 - 8, stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent 5,555,695 to Patsy. [Paper 20050822, page 2].

Claims 1-4

Patsy is relied upon to disclose "a channel flange 98." [Paper 20050822, page 3]

Applicant is unable to locate any written description in Patsy of element 98. As seen in Figure 9, element 98 appears to be an edge of the cavity 96.

FIG. 9



Applicant respectfully submits Patsy does not disclose a channel flange, as element 98 does not extend from the body of the extrusion.

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In an effort to more particularly set forth the present structure, Claims 1 - 4 have been amended to recite in part "the channel flange projecting in a vertical direction." As seen in Figures 3 and 4, the channel flanges 42 vertically project from the channel forming segments 40

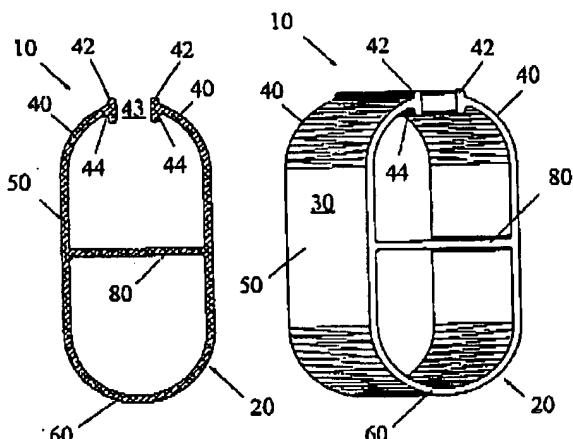


FIGURE 3

FIGURE 4

As this structure is not present in Patsy, the rejection under 35 USC §102 is believed overcome.

Claim 5

Independent Claim 5 has been amended to recite in part, "a batten body ... having a channel extending along a longitudinal dimension of the batten body and ... a lift line clamp slideably received in the channel and connected to one of the lift lines."

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Applicant respectfully submits there is no lift line clamp in Patsy. The absence of at least this limitation is sufficient to overcome the outstanding rejection in view of Patsy.

Claim 6

Independent Claim 6 recites in part, "a lift line clamp slideably received in the channel, the lift line clamp including a flange engaging leg for engaging each of the channel forming flanges."

No lift line clamp has been identified in Patsy. The absence of this limitation is sufficient to overcome the outstanding rejection under 35 USC §102.

Claim 7

Independent Claim 7 has been amended to recite in part, "the channel forming flanges having a vertically extending portion."

As the extrusion of Patsy does not have a flange, or a flange having a vertically extending portion, applicant respectfully submits the outstanding rejection under 35 USC §102 has been overcome.

Newly added claims

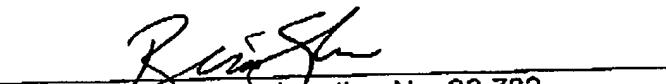
Claims 9 - 14 have been added, wherein Claims 9 - 11 depend from Claim 7 and include all the limitations thereof and Claims 12 - 14 depend from Claim 1 and include all the limitations thereof. As these claims include all the limitations of claims that are believed allowable, applicant respectfully submits these claims are also in condition for allowance.

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Accordingly, in view of the above amendments and comments, Applicant submits that the claims remaining in the application, namely Claims 1 - 14, are in condition of allowance, which action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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